

First Baptist Church of Peoria  
Engaging Minds and Hearts  
**FIRST BAPTIST NEWS**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018



## CHANGING OF THE SEASONS

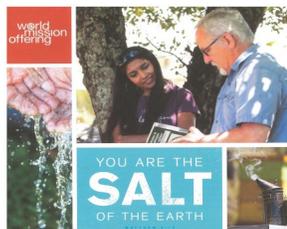
By Mark Grizzard



On a slightly chilly evening this past week, I went to my closet and dug out a sweater I hadn't seen or thought about since March. While I was at it, I brought out a few items of clothes I would start needing soon and stored some sandals and shorts for the winter. I sat down in a comfy sweater to work on my fantasy football roster (fruitlessly, as it turned out), and I started getting really excited for autumn. A new season was coming up: trips to Tanner's, pumpkin spice, holiday traditions! While some familiar experiences were on their way, I reflected that they wouldn't be identical to previous experiences. Of course, life will be a little different this autumn than it was last year.

Certainly, we're preparing for change here at First Baptist. I know I am not alone in admitting that I will sorely miss Rev. Kennedy. His passion for ministry, his skill as a communicator and his genuine, fun-loving spirit have been a lasting blessing to this church. It will be bittersweet to celebrate his time here as something that is coming to a close. At the same time, I am filled with joyful anticipation for the ministry of Rev. Collins to begin. We have all seen the passion, skills and spirit that he brings, and I am thrilled to begin working together to fulfill the mission of ministry in our church, community and world.

The Greek philosopher Heraclitus famously said, "The only constant is change." Surely, the world feels a lot different than it did twenty years ago, and yet we are tasked to bring our gifts and talents to the days in front of us. As another season begins, I encourage us all to embrace the newness around us and to step into new experiences with joy because, of course, there is much that remains constant. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8), and we can hold on to God's unchanging promise through every season. Happy Fall!



This year's **World Mission Offering** theme is "You are the Salt of Earth." It is taken from Matthew 5:15, which says, "And Jesus said to them, 'You are the Salt of the Earth.'"

Rev. Jim Bell, Associate Executive Director for Global Missions, writes: "Salt, as ordinary and plentiful as it is, possesses a unique power. Unlike any other seasoning, salt unlocks the subtle flavors in almost any food, enhancing them and bringing new sensations to our taste buds. When the Lord says to his followers, 'You are the salt of the earth,' he is urging them to go into the whole world and unlock the good that he is doing so others can be touched by the power of the saving grace of God. As followers of Christ, we too are the salt of the earth, seasoned with the love of the gospel and called to carry that love to all the earth."

Although we are not working physically in International Ministries, we can contribute financially to those global servants, Christian partners and volunteers who serve in the field. We will be receiving your **World Mission Offering** on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Our 2018 goal is \$2,000.

Bev Searcy, WMO Coordinator  
FBC Mission Board

## A FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR DR. KENNEDY

Please plan to attend a Lite Luncheon Celebration on Dr. Kennedy's last Sunday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, to thank Dr. Kennedy for his remarkable and amazing service to FBC Peoria over the past two years. His leadership and innovation have gone far beyond what we could normally have expected from an Interim Senior Pastor.

The theme for the luncheon is "Show HIS Colors." As a surprise for Dr. Kennedy, please try to wear or incorporate the colors **purple** and **gold** in your attire on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

A basket will be provided in Fellowship Hall for your cards and thank you notes.

Wayne Nowlan, Moderator

### Contact Us:

Dr. Rodney Kennedy, Interim Pastor  
Mark Grizzard, Music Dir./Youth. Leader  
Dr. Joshua Russell, Organist  
Leigh Grizzard, Bell Choir Director  
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**SEPT. 30, 2018, 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**FAREWELL DR. RODNEY KENNEDY**

**“GOOD GRACE HUNTING”**

Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

There's something religious that people seek whether they know they are looking or not. The rich young ruler in our gospel text wanted something more. He even knew to call it “eternal life.” Today's rich young rulers are a different breed. Stocks and bonds they know, but what is eternal life? IPO's and portfolios they know, but what is salvation? Profit and loss they know, but they would be befuddled with Jesus asking, “What will it profit you if you gain the whole world but forfeit your life?” The space that religion normally fills in a human life is already crammed with substitutes, and the biggest substitute seems the pursuit of and/or the possession of wealth. The story of the rich young ruler, in this sense, no longer rings true. “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Rich young rulers have changed.

**Music:** *“This I Believe”*—Chancel Choir and Youth Band

**OCT. 7, 2018, 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**WELCOME DR. ROBERT COLLINS**

**“AN EXACT IMPRINT”**

Psalm 8

On October seventh we will explore what it means when the writer of Hebrews calls Jesus the exact imprint of God. What are the ramifications of Jesus' ministry for our lives and for the world? Join us on the first Sunday of October and we'll figure it out together.

**Music:** *“Go Down, Moses”*—Chancel Choir  
*“Somebody's Knocking at Your Door”*—Chancel Bells

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Char Austin	Helen Nicol	Bruce Ingersoll
Sharon Stanard	Rose Kimpling	Ruth Turner
Pam Orrill	June Fredell	Jim Ashton
Marvin Olson	Rosemary Walk	Alyssa Russell
Wally Webber	Mary Hinch	Jacquelyn Kellogg

Don Middleton (Jim Middleton's son)  
Dick Sternberg (Jo Sternberg's husband)  
Peter (Grandson of Brenda Shay)  
Stephanie George (Brenda Shay's daughter)  
Mark Huddle (son of Mike & Cheryl Huddle)  
Ray Piersall (Deb & Tom McGlothlen's brother)

## **CONDOLENCES**

We extend our sympathy to Mike & Cheryl Huddle and family on the death of Mike's sister-in-law (Cindy's sister), Kathryn “Tattie” Williams on September 12, 2018 in Dayton, Ohio. A memorial service was held at First Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio.

## **YOUNG LIVES**

An exciting new program called Young Lives has come to FBC Peoria. It is a unique, non-profit Christian organization designed to help teen moms as they face the challenges of a single mother. The program has experienced mentors from throughout the community who meet with teens every second and fourth Monday evening throughout the school year. FBC Executive Committee members met with SuAnne [Hinch] Krick along with other Young Lives leaders this past summer to verify the adequacy of their space needs and to cover liability issues. A contract has been established, and the first meeting took place on Monday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>. Simple meals are prepared off-site and served in Fellowship Hall. Children are cared for in our two nursery spaces by a child-care team of mentoring adults. Teens and children are picked up and returned to their homes by another team of adult mentors. Teen moms and their mentors eat together. A Bible-based Christian program is provided after the meals.

SuAnne, a retired teacher, was raised at FBC. Her parents are Mary and Bob Hinch, and she is the primary leader of Young Lives Peoria. SuAnne told me they could use a couple of additional drivers to pick up teen mothers and their children. Drivers can either be a female or a husband-and-wife combination [but not unaccompanied male drivers]. If anyone is interested, they could also use a few subs in the child-care nurseries. Contact SuAnne Krick at 369-7426 with your questions or interest in helping with the Young Lives program.

Wayne Nowlan, Moderator

## **Contemporary Issues Class**

Our fall session resumes on October 14 with a very important topic – “All Kids Need Help Growing Up.” But kids need more help if they don't have enough food, if their neighborhoods aren't safe and if their families are struggling. Lesley Matuszak, chief professional officer of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria, will speak about what that organization does to help some 1,500 local children stay safe and healthy and become productive and responsible citizens. She is eager to share with us her passion for her work. The class will meet at 11:15 in the sanctuary.

Barb and Bernie Drake

## **WILL IT PLAY IN PEORIA?**

Dr. Kennedy has compiled his sermons here at First Baptist Church into book format. The finished product will be two soft-cover volumes. A limited number of the books will be available for purchase here at the church on September 30<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$30 for the set.

To reserve your books, please contact the church office by e-mail to [office@fbcpeoria.com](mailto:office@fbcpeoria.com) or by phone to (309) 682-5491.

# October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 On Oct. 7 bring non-perishable food donations. Your October donations will benefit the Peoria Area Blind Center.	<b>1</b> 10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's	<b>2</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 10AM MUGS (FBC Parlor)	<b>3</b> 5:15PM Guitar Reh. 5:45PM Bell Reh. 6:45PM Choir Reh.	<b>4</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8AM Men's Breakfast (Fell. Hall)
<b>7</b> Communion Sunday 9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children SS 11AM Fellowship Time Dr. Rob Collins' First Sunday as Sr. Pastor	<b>8</b> 10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's 11AM Heart-warming Hats	<b>9</b> Newsletter 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 10AM MUGS (FBC Parlor) 6:30PM Board Meetings	<b>10</b> 5:15PM Guitar Reh. 5:45PM Bell Reh. 6:45PM Choir Reh.	<b>11</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 6:30PM (Parlor) Diaconate Mtg.	<b>12</b> 6:30PM Gourmet Grp. (Var. Loc.)	<b>13</b> 10AM ABW Brunch (Fell. Hall)
<b>14</b> 9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children SS 11AM Fellowship Time 11:15AM Contemporary Issues Class (Sanct.)	<b>15</b> 10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's	<b>16</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 10AM MUGS (FBC Parlor) 12:30PM Circle of Friends (Fell. Hall)	<b>17</b> 5:15PM Guitar Reh. 5:45PM Bell Reh. 6:45PM Choir Reh.	<b>18</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children SS 11AM Fellowship Time 11:15AM Exec. Mtg.	<b>22</b> 10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's	<b>23</b> Newsletter 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 10AM MUGS (FBC Parlor) 7:30PM FBC Dartball (Fell. Hall)	<b>24</b> 5:15PM Guitar Reh. 5:45PM Bell Reh. 6:45PM Choir Reh.	<b>25</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp.	<b>26</b> 6:30PM Dining Out Group (Var. Loc.)	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children SS 11AM Fellowship Time 5PM Trunk or Treat	<b>29</b> 10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's	<b>30</b> 8:30AM FBC Exercise Grp. 10AM MUGS (FBC Parlor)	<b>31</b> 5:15PM Guitar Reh. 5:45PM Bell Reh. 6:45PM Choir Reh. 	 <b>FBC FALL CLEAN-UP</b> <b>SATURDAY, NOV. 3<sup>RD</sup></b>		

  
**First Baptist Church**  
OF PEORIA  
*Gathered in God's Word, Scattered to God's World*  
411 W Lake Avenue  
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**THE MISSION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO MINISTER TO OUR CONGREGATION, THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD, SO THAT ALL MAY EXPERIENCE THE LOVE AND GRACE OF GOD.**

## SAVE THE DATE

The Heart of Illinois Chorus is inviting all singing ladies to join us starting **Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**, to rehearse Christmas Songs that we will sing when we go caroling this Nov. and Dec. Please call Ruth Collins at 309-692-4508 for more information.

**Sunday, November 4, 2018**, at 2:30 p.m., at the ICC Performing Arts Center, E. Peoria, The Heart of Illinois Chorus, *"Need a Little Christmas...Spirit"*

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**, the Friendship Group Christmas Social at Bob & Arla Klimko's.

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## THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for your generous financial support of our ministry in Eastern Europe! You have faithfully supported us from the beginning. We are now beginning our second term of service, and your ongoing support is very important. We ask you to continue your partnership, giving and praying for us and those we serve. We cannot continue without you!

Rebecca Stanton, Global Servant to Hungary  
International Ministries

## ABW OCTOBER BRUNCH

Ladies, you are invited to our ABW October Brunch on Saturday, Oct.13<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. Our program will be on Physical Therapy. Kathi Thornburg, who is a physical therapist in the FBC exercise class, will be our guest speaker. Kathi also teaches Tai Chi & other classes at First Methodist Church.

Louise Heimann will do our devotion. We will have 2 offerings: Love Gift (boxes on the table) and missionar-ies—the Niles. The Niles have been to our church and are in the Congo. There will be a basket on the table.

The cost is \$4 at the door by the soda machine. Please feel free to bring guests. Just make sure you make reservations with Carolyn Ihnken by calling her at 685-1388 or e-mailing her at csimk@comcast.net.

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## DINING OUT GROUP

**Sept 28th at 7:00 p.m. at Gil's in Hanna City.**

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you plan to join them, please call Jennifer Dusek at 309-231-6389 or e-mail her at the\_j\_family@yahoo.com.